

Application No. 09/694,626

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, of which Claim 1 is the only independent claim, are pending. In the most recent Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Shiimori. In the above amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to include the element of Claim 3 as filed; and all other claims are dependent from claim 1 as amended.

The following discussion relates to Claim 1 as amended being patentably distinguishable from Shiimori.

As mentioned in the Specification as filed, the claimed invention is directed to a method of organizing image data to create a multi-page document. Each document comprises a plurality of page images, and each page image may include multiple image components, such as a photograph and block of text, each component being in the form of a data file. As is generally familiar in the art, different types of image components are compressed and/or otherwise processed in different preferable ways. The present invention, as recited in claim 1 as amended, is directed to organizing these files in a hierarchical arrangement using a naming convention for the various files, in particular by including naming a file as a directory of source files, which causes the writer application to generate the multi-page document.

The cited reference, Shiimori, is largely directed to the creation and viewing of an "electronic album"—a sequence of displayed images and music, using data loaded as needed from one or more servers. As such, Shiimori is not relevant to the creation of a multi-page document, which is recited in Claim 1.

Further, in the rejection of Claim 3 as originally filed (which is now incorporated in Claim 1 as amended), two specific passages of Shiimori were cited: (a) column 12, lines 30-67; and (b) column 2, line 54-column 3, line 3. Passage (a) is a discussion of the method described in Figure 15 of Shiimori, showing how data is located and extracted from an arrangement of folders and files in an image server. Files such as the "electronic album file," "frame layout file," and "music information file" are used to organize image and other data read

Application No. 09/694,626

out of the hard disk of the image server. Passage (b) merely states that an electronic album file stored in an image server is viewed by a client computer, and the electronic album file retains "display order data" determining the order in which frame images in the image server are displayed.

What is missing from any of this discussion in Shiimori is the idea of a multi-page document; using a naming convention for the files; applying a writer application which recognizes the files to write a multipage document; or naming a file within the set of files as a directory of source files, all of which are recited in Claim 1 as amended. Shiimori is directed simply to determining a time order in which certain images stored on an image server are displayed in order to create an electronic album. There is no disclosure in the cited passages of Shiimori remotely resembling, for instance, the recited idea of naming a file (such as in the image server in Shiimori) as a directory of source files, in order to yield a multi-page document. Indeed, multi-page documents of any kind are unmentioned in Shiimori. Absent any such disclosure, Shiimori does not anticipate Claim 1 as amended, and all of the pending claims are dependent from claim 1 as amended.

Claims 7 and 9-12 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 over Shiimori in view of DeAguiar. These claims are deemed allowable as being dependent from Claim 1 as amended, the patentability of which has been argued above. Nonetheless, the DeAguiar reference is clearly directed to "a memory management system for tiled images"—there is no disclosure or teaching of using a naming convention to yield multi-page document images. Absent such a teaching, which is recited in Claim 1 as amended, in either reference, the references can in no way be combined to render any of the pending claims obvious.


The claims are therefore in condition for allowance.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

Application No. 09/694,626

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby requested to call the undersigned attorney at (585) 423-3811, Rochester, NY.

Respectfully submitted,



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